

02-230

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Elizabeth Silas
Williams Hall
Miami University
Oxford, OH 45056

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D C. 20554

RECEIVED

OCT 28 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Michael K. Powell

As a media literacy educator, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag."

Individuals of every age are surrounded by media texts—particularly television—and many have no experience thinking critically about them or analyzing their content and form. As an educator, I find it crucial to be able to show students recent examples of news programs, dramas, advertisements, and other television texts in order to provide an opportunity for individuals and groups to analyze their components.

These kinds of skills are necessary both for students who are looking to break into the television industry and those who wish to be more active consumers and interpreters of media. The broadcast flag will prevent me from recording many of the texts that I currently record and show in class under "fair use" laws.

As a teacher, a citizen, and a viewer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Silas



EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Aurelea River
6609 Whitney St.
Oakland, CA, 94609

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

OCT 28 2003

**Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**

Dear Chairman Michael K. Powell:

The FCC is a PUBLIC agency Fair use is a basic public right. The entertainment industry is plainly in crisis, but they've put themselves there, in a variety of ways, and it's not right for the FCC to bail them out at the expense of everyone else in the country.

As both a consumer and an artist, I deplore commercial piracy. Creators should absolutely be fairly compensated for their work. I don't buy bootleg films and I don't download copyrighted music off the Internet.

But piracy flourishes not only because people are cheap, but because content is often unreasonably restricted. Television (which makes its money though advertising, not by charging consumers) as opposed to movies and music, is offered free, and should be available to share as long as no money changes hands: in an educational setting, among friends, in families.

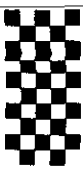
Also, isn't wide dissemination of their product what broadcasters want? Isn't a taped episode of a show basically a free advertisement for NBC or Cartoon Network or whatever?

The industry is in a panic right now, but they should be rethinking their strategies for reaching consumers, not merely punishing the many for the sins of the few (who are doubtless crafty enough to get around such protections anyway).

The FCC should act like the government agency that it is and protect the rights of the people by voting no on the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

Aurelea River



EX PARTE OR LATE FILED
Caitlin Berrigan
5 Glenwood Ave
Northampton

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

OCT 28 2003

**Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary**

Dear Chairman Michael K. Powell :

As a broadcast television viewer and consumer of electronics and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag " I am outraged that the FCC would consider a regulation that would restrict the way television is currently used.

The broadcast flag is neither in my interest nor the public's interest. It will prevent teachers and professors from using news clips in classrooms, teaching communications and journalism, and shutting down academic use for media

If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and useful, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital television equipment? A prettier picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and viewer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital television transition by opposing adoption of the broadcast flag.

Ultimately, this will shut down the reach, extent, and applicability of televised media.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Berrigan

PAUL, WEISS, RIFKIND, WHARTON & GARRISON LLP

1615 L STREET, NW, WASHINGTON, D C. 20036-5694 (202) 223-7300

FAX COVER SHEET

FROM: Patrick S. Campbell

DATE: October 28, 2003

RETURN FAX NUMBER: (202) 223-7420

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES: 1 (Including Cover Sheet)

NAME	FIRM/COMPANY	FAX NO. (LIST ALT. WHERE POSSIBLE)	TIME SENT
Ms. Yvonne Hughes	Federal Communications Commission	418-2801	
cc: Mr. Bryan Tramont	"	418-2801	
cc: Ms. Sheryl Wilkerson	"	418-2801	

If transmission is incomplete, please call: (202) 223-7337

Operator: Grace Belmonte

COMMENTS:

SES Americom would like to schedule a meeting with Bryan Tramont to discuss the comments and reply filed by SES Americom in response to Intelsat's proposed purchase of Loral's domestic satellites (see File Nos. SAT-ASG-20030728-00138; SAT-ASG-20030728-00139). The comments ask the Commission to impose certain conditions on any approval of the proposed transaction to protect competition in the market for sale of satellite services to the U.S. Government.

Attending the meeting will be Scott Tollefsen, General Counsel of SES Americom, David Helfgott, President of Americom Government Services, and Patrick Campbell of Paul, Weiss (outside counsel to SES Americom). They would like to have the meeting at any time between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 30, 2003

Please contact me at your earliest convenience to let me know when this meeting can take place, or if I can answer any questions that you might have. I can be reached at (202) 223-7323.

Best regards.

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** TOTAL PAGE.01 **

Tuesday, October 28 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

VIA FACSIMILE

Dear Chairman Powell,

The Broadcast flag will deny my two year old daughter of educational programming and ensure that I never watch a major motion picture for the next 5 years

As a consumer of broadcast television, electronics, and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag." I am gravely concerned that a broadcast flag regulation would restrict the way I enjoy television.

The digital television transition relies on convincing consumers of the benefits of switching to and buying digital television equipment. That transition will be far more palatable to me as a consumer if switching doesn't mean discarding my existing home network, buying new high-resolution displays, and finding room for yet another device in my living room. Please do not allow the MPAA and its allies to hinder the transition by making us buy special-purpose DTV devices that are more expensive and less valuable. My only motivation for buying a DTV device would be if it offered more flexibility in viewing, not less. I have three computers and fully expect to be able to view DTV on them when I decide to by interface cards, but since they all use open source software, the broadcast flag would make that impossible.

I already own a Digital Video Recorder (TiVo). I never watch live television or any motion pictures until my two year old daughter is asleep. During the evening she watches educational programming that was broadcast while she was in preschool. When we are not in the room with the DVR, my wife transfers children's programming to VHS tapes for my daughter to watch in the kitchen while they cook. The broadcast flag would deprive my child of educational programming that prior legislation sought to ensure.

Because of my very limited viewing hours, I can only watch broadcast movies if my VCR or TiVo is programmed to record them while I am at work or asleep in order to watch them later

Also, in the kitchen we do not have a standard TV set. The screen that my daughter watches TV on is the screen of the computer that my wife uses to balance our checkbooks. If the broadcast flag were adopted, we would be able to use our computer to display television in this convenient central location. If the move to digital television does not make the public's viewing experience more enjoyable, flexible, and exciting, what compelling reason do I have as a consumer to buy new digital equipment? A prettier TV picture is hardly enough reason for me to dispense with all my

current consumer electronics and computer equipment. As a citizen and consumer of broadcast television, I urge you to promote the digital transition by opposing the broadcast flag.

Sincerely,

John Huebner
5 Carpenter Road
Piscataway, NJ 08854

Jeanie Smith
P. O. Box 580
Lincolnton, GA 30817

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Michael K. Powell:

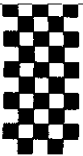
From an education standpoint, the Broadcast Flag would greatly hinder classroom instruction. The Fair Use law has been such a help for educators to incorporate up-to-date information in the classroom. What better way to discuss overweight children or the cruelty of children than to show the program where a thin girl dressed in a fat suit and went to a new school? what better way to discuss the events in the middle east than to be able to record the news or show a segment to your class.

The problems with Hollywood and piracy are understandable because people should be paid for their work and not have to worry about others taking advantage of that, but not allowing schools to record programs and segments of programs will further hinder education in our country.

From a personal standpoint, my family is very busy. There are so many nights when we are not home when our favorite shows come on. If it weren't for VCR's, we would never get to see these shows. We are not showing them in an open forum and charging admission. We are watching them at a later date. If we could not do this and countless others could not as well, many of these shows would go off the air because the interest in them would be gone.

Sincerely,

Jeanie Smith



Heidi Whitus
231 East Woodlawn Ave.
San Antonio, Texas 78212

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Michael K. Powell:

As a media educator, broadcast television viewer and consumer of electronics and computer products, I urge the Federal Communications Commission to vote against the adoption of a "broadcast flag."

What I particularly protest is the potential that the "broadcast flag" has to interfere with the practice of teaching media literacy. The broadcast flag would make it impossible for classroom teachers to bring timely examples of media into their classroom for discussion and analysis. For example, I am preparing a lesson for my class in which we will compare two different local news stations' coverage of the same event. With the broadcast flag in place, we will no longer be able to do this.

Our society should highly value the preparation of its children to become good citizens in a democracy. When the teaching of media literacy becomes difficult or even impossible through technology designed to benefit Hollywood rather than the public, our children will no longer have the skills to intelligently interpret the barrage of media messages they receive. They will not be truly prepared citizens. I urge you to consider the negative implications of the "broadcast flag" for education and oppose its adoption.

Sincerely,

Heidi Whitus